[2nd November 1931

Mr. Yakub Hasan:—"May I know what proportion this fall of Rs. 95 lakhs in excise revenue bears to the budgeted income?'

The hon. Mr. H. G. Stokes:—"The budgeted income at the beginning of the year was about 5 crores of rupees. Ninety-five lakhs of rupees roughly works out at one-fifth.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I know what this deficit in Excise revenue is due to?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. Stokes:—"Mostly owing to economic pressure and partly owing to agitation."

Savings on account of revision of salaries.

* 499 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount of saving effected or expected to be effected by the revision of scales of salary in the gazetted and non-gazetted ranks; and

(*b*) what the respective posts are for which revision of scales of salary has been proposed?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Retrenchment Committee are examining the question of revising the scales of pay for future entrants to all Provincial, Subordinate and Specialist services and it is understood that they have not yet completed their examination. No proposals have yet been received and it will probably be some time before final recommendations are made.

Saving effected by the introduction of fixed travelling allowance.

*500 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have examined the extent of saving that might be effected by the introduction of fixed travelling allowance; and

(*b*) if so, what are the results of their investigation, and the reasons for their decision?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) No; but the possibility of effecting savings in the manner indicated was referred to the Retrenchment Committee for consideration and they have recently recommended that Government should examine further the possibility, without involving increased expenditure, of extending the system of fixed travelling allowance to suitable classes of officers who have a fixed amount of touring to do within a limited area. Most officers in this category already receive fixed travelling allowance.